(d) what are the names of the producers of 6-APA to whom import licencer for the import of Penicillin V were granted during the last three years, year-wise; and

(e) what is the quantity imported by each of them and what was the CIF price?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Issue of licences for the import of Penicillin G and V

1672 SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that import of Penicillin G and Penicillin V, is allowed on the basis of import licences issued by the Chief Controller of Imports;

(b) if so, the number of applications received during the last three years, year-wise alongwith the names of parties and quantity applied;

(c) the names of the parties in whose favour import licences have been issued alongwith the quantity and value of each during the same period;

(d) whether it is a fact that a number of applications are still pending;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) what is the policy in this regard and on what basis import licences are issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) to (f) Import of Penicillin G and Penicillin V is allowed against Supplementary licences granted by the Chief Controller of Imports & Exports. Supplementary licences for imports of Penicillin 'G' are granted on the basis of lifting of the indigenous material in the prescribed ratio. The current ratio is 70 (imported): 30 (indigenous). Imports of Penicillin V is allowed in cases where the unit cannot use Penicillin G, the alternate raw material. Applications of M/s. Pharmachem and M/s. Alembic for import of Penicillin V are pending in the absence of certification that alternate raw material namely, Penicillin G cannot be used by them. The statistical data about total number of applications, quantity applied for, is not being compiled. However, details of licences granted are published in the "Weekly Bulletin of Import Licences, Export Licences and Industrial Licences", copies of which are a available in Parliament Library.

Customs duty on bulk drugs

1673. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of bulk drugs and intermediates which are charged a concessional rate of customs duty or exempted from customs duty;

(b) what are the names of drugs and intermediates which got the concession in the last budget;

(c) whether it is a fact that the price of end products have not been reduced so as to pass on he cancession to the consumers; and

(d) what was the objective of concession and exemption of customs duty and whether the benefit has gone to the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) The following notifications prescribe concessional rates of customs duty in respect of bulk drugs and intermediates:

1. No. 45/79-Customs dated 1-3-1979.

2. No. 64/79-Customs dated 6-3-1979.

3. No. 5-12-1984.	287/84-Customs	dated
4. No. 17-3-1985.	57/85-Customs	dated
5. No. 17-3-1985.	89/85-Customs	dated
6. No. 17-1-1986.	11/86-Customs	dated
7. No. 17-2-1986.	77/86-Customs	dated
8. No. 17-2-1986.	136/86-Customs	dated
9. No. 1-3-1986.	179/86-Customs	dated
10. No. 28-4-1986.	271/86-Customs	dated
11. No. 1-3-1988.	14/88-Customs	dated
12. No. 30-6-1988.	213/88-Customs	dated
13. No. 1-11-1988.	296/88-Customs	dated

These notifications contain the names of all bulk drugs and intermediates (which number over 430) which are charged to concessional rates of customs duty or exempted from customs duty. The above notifications have been duly laid on the Table of the House.

(b) The following notifications issued as part of the 1989 Budget prescribe concessional rates of customs duty in respect of drugs and intermediates:

1. No. 1-3-1989.	42/89-Customs	dated
2. No. 1-3-1989.	45/89-Customs	dated
3. No. 1-3-1989.	46/89-Customs	dated

(c) and (d) Concession in customs duty is granted inter alia to encourage indigenous production of bulk drugs/ formulations. The prices of specified drugs are fixed by the administrative Ministry under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1987. While fixing the priees of drugs under this Order, the extent of reduction of customs duty is taken into account. In the case of drugs which are not under price control, drug manufacturers and their Associations are advised by the administrative Ministry to pass on the benefit to the extent of duty concession to the consumers.

Forgery in banks

1674. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of cases of forgery in banks detected during the last one year and the amount involved;

(b) what is the number of cases in which bank employees were found involved; and

(c) what is the number of cases in which action has so far been taken against the guilty employees and the number of cases in which action is yet to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the present data maintenance system does not generate information about cases of forgery in banks separately. RBI has, however, intimated that during 1988 (till September) 28 public sector banks have reported to RBI 1382 cases of fraud from within the country involving an amount of Rs. 2005.23 lakhs. Details of action taken by banks against the delinquent employees involved in cases of frauds during 1988 (till September) are as under:—

(i) No. of employees convicted on charges of frauds—73.

(ii) No. of employees given major/minor penalties—509.

(Data provisional)